Please amend the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended): A medicament containing at least one active ingredient which lowers the cholesterol level in the blood, comprising a ~~characterized in that it has~~ means for releasing ~~providing release characteristics for~~ the active ingredient wherein ~~with which~~ the active ingredient is released with at least two different release rates, ~~specifically~~ with a first release rate in a first period and with a second release rate, which is higher than the first release rate, in a subsequent second period, where the second period starts 2 to 12 hours after administration of the medicament, and where the means for releasing does ~~which provide the release characteristics do~~ not exclusively comprise an enteric coating.

2. (Currently amended): The medicament as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the active ingredient is an HMG-CoA reductase ~~reducatse~~ inhibitor and/or an active ingredient from the class of fibrates.

3. (Currently amended): The medicament as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~or 2, characterized in that~~ the first period starts with administration of the medicament and lasts up to 10 hours.

4. (Currently amended): The medicament as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~any of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that~~ not more than 20% by weight of the active ingredient of the medicament is released within the first period.

5. (Currently amended): The medicament as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~any of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that~~ the first release rate is in the range from 0% active ingredient to 5% active ingredient and the second release rate is in the range from 6% to 100% active ingredient, in each case in a 10-minute interval.

6. (Currently amended): The medicament as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~any of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that~~ the first release rate is not equal to 0, and the second release rate is at least twice as high as the first release rate.

7. (Currently amended): The medicament as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~, wherein the second period has a duration in the range from 15 minutes to 3 hours.

8. (Currently amended): The medicament as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~, wherein the second period has a duration in the range from 3 to 6 hours.

9. (Currently amended): The medicament as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 8~~, wherein at least 50% by weight of the active ingredient of the medicament are released within the second period.

10. (Currently amended): The medicament as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~any of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that~~ the active ingredient used comprises one or more HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors selected from the group consisting of fluvastatin, simvastatin, atorvastatin, pravastatin, lovastatin, cerivastatin, nisvastatin, dolvastatin, bervastatin and rosuvastatin, ~~an~~ enantiomers and ~~or an~~ enantiomer mixtures thereof, and ~~a~~ pharmaceutically acceptable salts, ~~a~~ hydrates and ~~or a~~ solvates thereof.

11. (Currently amended): The medicament as claimed in claim 1, comprising ~~any of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that it comprises~~ a time-controlled system of the explosion type, in which an active ingredient-containing core is provided with one or more layers, where at least one of the layers represents a water-insoluble layer, the active ingredient-containing core comprises a swellable excipient, and the higher second release rate is brought about by explosive destruction of the water-insoluble layer.

12. (Currently amended): The medicament as claimed in claim 11, wherein one or more intermediate layers, at least one of which comprises a swellable excipient, are applied between the active ingredient-containing core and the water-insoluble layer.

13. (Currently amended): The medicament as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12~~, wherein the swellable excipient comprises a disintegrant ~~such as crosslinked sodium carboxymethylstarch, crosslinked sodium carboxymethylcellulose, low-substituted~~

~~sodium carboxymethylstarch, crosslinked PVP, low-substituted hydroxypropylcellulose, starch or a highly swellable ion exchange resin~~.

14. (Currently amended): The medicament as claimed in claim 11 ~~any of claims 11 to 13~~, wherein the water-insoluble film comprises ~~is a film of~~ ethylcellulose, cellulose acetate, polyvinyl acetate, acrylate or mixtures of these polymers, and optionally ~~where appropriate with~~ one or more customary excipients.

15. (Currently amended): The medicament as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 14~~, which comprises a system of two different types of particles, ~~preferably two different types of pellets or two different types of microtablets,~~ which are coated in such a way that ~~the release characteristics are as follows~~:

the ~~The~~ active ingredient is released slowly in a first period, then active ingredient is released faster in a second period following directly thereon, the active ingredient is released slowly in a third period following directly thereon, and the active ingredient is released faster in a fourth period following directly thereon.

16. (Currently amended): The medicament as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 14~~, which comprises a system of two different types of particles~~, preferably two different types of pellets or two different types of microtablets~~ with two different active ingredients, which are coated in such a way that ~~the release characteristics are as follows~~:

both ~~Both~~ active ingredients are released slowly in a first period, one active ingredient continues to be released slowly, but the second active ingredient is released faster, in a second period following directly thereon, the first active ingredient continues to be released slowly, while the second active ingredient has already been essentially completely released, in a third period following directly thereon, and the first active ingredient is released faster in a fourth period following directly thereon.

17. (New): The medicament as claimed in claim 2, wherein the first period starts with administration of the medicament and lasts up to 10 hours.

18. (New): The medicament as claimed in claim 2, wherein not more than 20% by weight of the active ingredient of the medicament is released within the first period.

19. (New): The medicament as claimed in claim 2, wherein the first release rate is in the range from 0% active ingredient to 5% active ingredient and the second release rate is in the range from 6% to 100% active ingredient, in each case in a 10-minute interval.

20. (New): The medicament as claimed in claim 2, wherein the first release rate is not equal to 0, and the second release rate is at least twice as high as the first release rate.

21. (New): The medicament as claimed in claim 2, wherein the second period has a duration in the range from 15 minutes to 3 hours.

22. (New): The medicament as claimed in claim 2, wherein the second period has a duration in the range from 3 to 6 hours.

23. (New): The medicament as claimed in claim 2, wherein at least 50% by weight of the active ingredient of the medicament are released within the second period.

24. (New): The medicament as claimed in claim 2, wherein the active ingredient used comprises one or more HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors selected from the group consisting of fluvastatin, simvastatin, atorvastatin, pravastatin, lovastatin, cerivastatin, nisvastatin, dolvastatin, bervastatin and rosuvastatin, enantiomers and enantiomer mixtures thereof, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, hydrates and solvates thereof.

25. (New): The medicament as claimed in claim 2, comprising a time-controlled system of the explosion type, in which an active ingredient-containing core is provided with one or more layers, where at least one of the layers represents a water-insoluble layer, the active ingredient-containing core comprises a swellable

excipient, and the higher second release rate is brought about by explosive destruction of the water-insoluble layer.

26. (New): The medicament as claimed in claim 25, wherein one or more intermediate layers, at least one of which comprises a swellable excipient, are applied between the active ingredient-containing core and the water-insoluble layer.

27. (New): The medicament as claimed in claim 13, wherein the disintegrant is selected from the group consisting of crosslinked sodium carboxymethylstarch, crosslinked sodium carboxymethylcellulose, low-substituted sodium carboxymethylstarch, crosslinked PVP, low-substituted hydroxypropylcellulose, starch and a highly swellable ion exchange resin.

28. (New): The medicament as claimed in claim 1, which comprises a system of two different types of pellets or two different types of microtablets, which are coated in such a way that:

> the active ingredient is released slowly in a first period, then active ingredient is released faster in a second period following directly thereon, the active ingredient is released slowly in a third period following directly thereon, and the active ingredient is released faster in a fourth period following directly thereon.

29. (New): The medicament as claimed in claim 1, which comprises a system of two different types of pellets or two different types of microtablets with two different active ingredients, which are coated in such a way that:

> both active ingredients are released slowly in a first period, one active ingredient continues to be released slowly, but the second active ingredient is released faster, in a second period following directly thereon, the first active ingredient continues to be released slowly, while the second active ingredient has already been essentially completely released, in a third period following directly thereon, and the first active ingredient is released faster in a fourth period following directly thereon.

30. (New): The medicament as claimed in claim 15, wherein the active ingredient is an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor and/or an active ingredient from the class of fibrates.

31. (New): The medicament as claimed in claim 16, wherein the active ingredient is an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor and/or an active ingredient from the class of fibrates.

32. (New): The medicament as claimed in claim 28, wherein the active ingredient is an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor and/or an active ingredient from the class of fibrates.

33. (New): The medicament as claimed in claim 29, wherein the active ingredient is an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor and/or an active ingredient from the class of fibrates.